



Press Release

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Governor's Climate Change Initiative Takes Action Cal/EPA host to First Climate Action Team Stakeholder Briefing

The California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA) has released its timetable for seeking public input on the Climate Action Team report to the Governor and the Legislature. The report responds to the Governor's call for action to meet ambitious climate change emission reduction targets in the state announced by the Governor at the United Nations World Environment Day in June. It will address the impacts of climate change on public health, water, agriculture, coastlines and forests.

"Californian's overwhelmingly support the Governor's actions to reduce climate change emissions in the state and to do our part to address the issue of global warming," said Alan C. Lloyd, Cal/EPA Secretary and leader of the Climate Action Team. "The Governor is once again demonstrating California's leadership in protecting public health and the environment while maintaining a robust and growing economy. Many of the emission reduction strategies already underway in this state, including the motor vehicle greenhouse gas regulations and efficiency standards, have been demonstrated to save consumers money and create jobs in this state. I am proud to be leading this effort."

The Governor signed an Executive Order which directs the Secretary of Cal/EPA to lead a multi-agency effort to meet ambitious statewide climate change emission reduction targets; evaluate the effects of climate change on public health, water, agriculture, coastlines and forests; and develop adaptation plans to ensure the state is prepared to respond to the adverse impacts of climate change. Secretary Lloyd has created a Climate Action Team made up of high-level representatives including the Chairwoman of the Air Resources Board (ARB), Chairwoman of the Waste Management Board, Commissioners from the California Energy Commission (CEC) and Public Utilities Commission, and the Secretary of the Department of Food and Agriculture. The Governor's targets call for a reduction in climate change emissions to year 2000 levels by 2010, over 10 percent below currently projected 2010 levels. By 2020 the target is set at 1990 emission levels and by 2050 80 percent below 1990 emission levels.

During the Climate Action Team's first stakeholder briefing held on July 28, the Team released its timetable for public meetings. The meetings are set for late summer through the end of the year culminating in the Team's first report to the Governor and Legislature in January 2006. The public meetings will provide opportunities for the public and all stakeholders including industry, environmental, non-government, and communities with environmental justice concerns to participate in dialogue and comment.

"I am excited to be a part of this incredible effort. I look forward to further dialogue with all stakeholders and members of the public as we strive to meet the challenge the Governor has given us," said Cindy Tuck, ARB Chair. "Reducing climate change emissions in this state will ultimately benefit not just California but the entire planet."

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B. B. Blevins, Energy Commission Executive Director, concurred, "The Energy Commission has long been committed to evaluating the impacts of climate change on California and determining what actions the state can take to adapt to adverse impacts. I look forward to continuing our current efforts and working with the public, stakeholders and my colleagues in government as the Climate Action Team prepares its report to the Governor and Legislature."

Learn more about the Climate Action Team and the Governor's Climate Action Initiative at:
www.climatechange.ca.gov

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